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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Robert J. Winchester, et al.

Serial No. : 09/773,876 Examiner: R. Schwadron

Filed : January 31, 2001 Group Art Unit: 1644

For : USE OF INHIBITORS OF THE ACTIVATION OF  
CXCR4 RECEPTOR BY SDF-1 IN TREATING  
RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS1185 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, New York 10036  
February 22, 2005Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO NOVEMBER 19, 2004  
FINAL OFFICE ACTION

This Communication is submitted in response to the November 19, 2004 Final Office Action issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the November 19, 2004 Final Office Action is due February 19, 2005. However, since February 19, 2005 falls on a Saturday, a response filed on the next business day which is not a Federal holiday, i.e. Tuesday, February 22, 2005, is considered timely. Accordingly, this Communication is being timely filed.